

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

- 1           1.       A method for producing a mosaic with a generally planar surface  
2       comprising the steps of:  
3                   providing a base substrate having a first side and a second side,  
4       wherein the base substrate has a height;  
5                   providing at least one additional substrate having a first side and a  
6       second side, wherein the at least one additional substrate has a height, and wherein  
7       the at least one additional substrate is in the shape of a portion of the mosaic that  
8       will contain a more detailed portion of the mosaic;  
9                   affixing the second side of the at least one additional substrate to the  
10       first side of the base substrate in an area of the mosaic that will contain a more  
11       detailed portion of the mosaic;  
12                   affixing relatively thicker pieces of tesserae to the first side of the  
13       base substrate; and  
14                   affixing relatively thinner pieces of tesserae to the first side of the at  
15       least one additional substrate.
- 1           2.       The method of claim 1, wherein each of the relatively thinner pieces  
2       of tesserae have a height of approximately 1/8 inch.
- 1           3.       The method of claim 1, wherein each of the relatively thicker pieces  
2       of tesserae have a height of approximately 3/8 inch.
- 1           4.       The method of claim 1, wherein each of the relatively thinner pieces  
2       of tesserae have a height of approximately 3/8 inch, and wherein each of the  
3       relatively thicker pieces of tesserae have a height of approximately 3/4 inch.
- 1           5.       The method of claim 1, wherein the tesserae comprises various size  
2       pieces of terra cotta, glass, marble, or stone.
- 1           6.       The method of claim 1, wherein the base substrate comprises a  
2       material with a coefficient of expansion substantially similar to the coefficient of  
3       expansion of the tesserae.
- 1           7.       The method of claim 1, wherein the additional substrate comprises a  
2       material with a coefficient of expansion substantially similar to the coefficient of  
3       expansion of the tesserae.
- 1           8.       The method of claim 1, wherein the tesserae is affixed to the base  
2       substrate and the additional substrate via an adhesive.

1           9.       The method of claim 1, wherein the tesserae is affixed to the base  
2 substrate and the additional substrate via a mortar.

1           10.      The method of claim 1, wherein the additional substrate is affixed to  
2 the base substrate via an adhesive.

1           11.      A method for producing a mosaic with a generally planar surface  
2 comprising the steps of:

3                   providing a base substrate having a first side and a second side,  
4 wherein the base substrate has at least one elevated portion, wherein a top surface of  
5 the elevated portion has a generally planar surface, and wherein the at least one  
6 elevated portion is in the shape of a portion of the mosaic that will contain a more  
7 detailed portion of the mosaic; and

8                   affixing relatively thicker pieces of tesserae to the first side of the  
9 base substrate; and

10                  affixing relatively thinner pieces of tesserae to the top surface of the  
11 at least one elevated portion of the base substrate.

1           12.      The method of claim 11, wherein each of the relatively thinner pieces  
2 of tesserae have a height of approximately 1/8 inch.

1           13.      The method of claim 11, wherein each of the relatively thicker pieces  
2 of tesserae have a height of approximately 3/8 inch.

1           14.      The method of claim 11, wherein each of the relatively thinner pieces  
2 of tesserae have a height of approximately 3/8 inch, and wherein each of the  
3 relatively thicker pieces of tesserae have a height of approximately 3/4 inch.

1           15.      The method of claim 11, wherein the tesserae comprises various size  
2 pieces of terra cotta, glass, marble, or stone.

1           16.      The method of claim 11, wherein the base substrate comprises a  
2 material with a coefficient of expansion substantially similar to the coefficient of  
3 expansion of the tesserae.